

POLITICAL CROOKS TAKE ADVANTAGE

**"Old Guard" Dislodged Hopes
to Come Back With
Gardner**

DECENCY DEMANDS LAMM VOTE

**Democratic Supporters of Gardner
Are Known Law-Breakers and
Expect to Continue Evil
Doing If They Can Put
Him Over.**

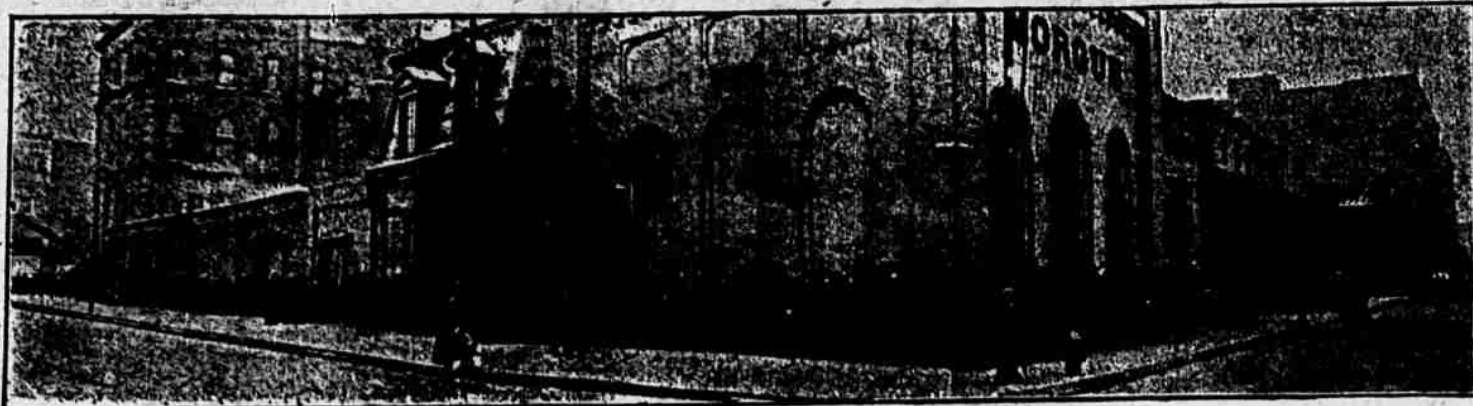
Is the "old guard" coming back? Have the people so far forgotten the tremendous efforts it took a dozen years ago to break the hold of selfish and corrupt politicians upon the government of Missouri, when Jos. W. Folk drove the worst gang that ever infested the politics of the state from power? The people soon forget and often neglect, and political crooks, particularly, take advantage of their negligence to repeat the history of crookedness. There is a movement of that kind on foot right now and the people of the state need to know about it so that they can be on their guard.

Last July Col. Fred D. Gardner, who had been mentioned for the governorship, and who had really aspired to the office, looking over the field, decided that he would not be a candidate, and, among his friends, so announced at Columbia. In April of this year, a bunch of men who are interested in the exploitation of the Democratic party of the state, got together at St. Louis and, after conferring for several hours in one of the leading hotels decided that it was important for them and the peculiar interests they represented to insist upon the candidacy of Mr. Gardner for Governor, chiefly because he was several times a millionaire and could give the campaign, in their behalf as well as in his behalf, a proper measure of needed financing. The men who attended this meeting were Jas. A. Reed, who wanted to be re-elected Senator, Thos. J. Pendergast, the Kansas City political boss, who was Reed's particular friend, and who, as a side issue, runs a vile resort in Kansas City known as the Jefferson Hotel, Emil O'Malley, a wholesale cigar dealer in Kansas City, whom Reed has recommended for postmaster, but who was not appointed by President because the latter did not regard him as a fit man for the place, Wm. J. Stone, the smooth junior Senator from Missouri, Harry B. Hawes, the "old guard" gangster, Sam B. Cook, Democratic nominee for Senator in the Jefferson City district, who was also a member of the "old guard," and Col. Gardner himself.

The gang, remembering that Mr. Gardner's original ambition for the governorship was based on social ambition, originating from one of Gov. Major's tango dances at the capital, proceeded to show him what a high honor it would be to him socially to hold the gubernatorial office. It is said that they told him it would not be necessary or him to spend a great deal of time at the capital and that his occupancy of the office would not interfere in any way with his commercial operations as head of the Cofin Trust. The history of the matter is that Col. Gardner finally yielded to them and his name was announced, with the result that he opened very freely before the primaries and is demonstrating his generous disposition right now in the general campaign. It is interesting to know who these men are and what their purpose was in connection with the candidacy of Mr. Gardner. It is not necessary to pay much about Senator Reed who, with a candidacy for re-election, and with opposition constantly increasing that grew out of his bitter fight against President Wilson on the subject of some appointments that he recommended thought it might be desirable for him to have a helpful financial partnership. Then he also had some interest in establishing his very dear, political and personal friend, Thos. J. Pendergast in power. In the spring campaign in Kansas City last April, James A. Reed openly declared himself friend of Thos. J. Pendergast and defended him as an honest man from a score of platforms, when Pendergast was at the time bolting the Democratic ticket. Mr. Pendergast's ambition, not altogether sentimental, was to control the police board of Kansas City, two of the three members are appointed by the Governor and are removable at his pleasure. It might be asked why Pendergast particularly cared for the control of the police in his home city. It should be known, however, that as proprietor of the Jefferson Hotel resort, he is constantly in need of immunity from police espionage and attack so that his profitable operations in that connection may not be interrupted. It is an open secret in Kansas City that this is one of the most disgraceful dives in the West. In fact it is a blot upon the city that tolerates it and the state in which it is located. It runs wide open until 3 or 4 in the morning, in constant violation of the law and is particularly shameful in that it is frequented by boys and girls under age, whom it lures to ruin by means of its false attractiveness. The

"DEMOCRATIC PROSPERITY" BEFORE THE WAR

**FREE SOUP HOUSE LINE IN ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, CHRISTMAS DAY, 1914
4127 HUNGRY VICTIMS OF DEMOCRATIC FREE TRADE**



A living illustration of the effect of Democratic legislation before war orders stopped Democratic hard times. A daily average of over two thousand unemployed were fed at this free soup house for over three months. Will you vote to continue these conditions when the European war ends?

REMEMBER—The first year of Wilson brought—

- More commercial failures than ever known—**
- More railroads in receivers' hands than ever known—**
- Over half million railroad employees out of work—**
- Over three million idle men in the country—**
- Farm products declining in price—**
- Conditions rapidly approaching those under Cleveland's last administration—**
- This is What Free Trade did BEFORE THE WAR. It will do the same AFTER THE WAR.**

Ask yourself, How were YOU doing?

- What price Was YOUR produce bringing—**
- When Democratic laws were operating under normal conditions?**

PROTECTION IS THE NEED OF THE HOUR

Vote For "America First." Protect American Industries, American Labor, American Products

orgies are unmentionable in their details. In connection with one of these, Mrs. Della Conkling shot herself on April 2, 1914, and another suicide, that of a bright boy, W. L. Morley, who took his own life at Chicago, and who said before dying that he had been started in his bad habits as the result of a visit to the Jefferson Hotel. Another tragedy attributed to the influence of this resort was that in which a young man, just from the Jefferson Hotel, who had been engaged in drinking, drove through a crowd of Jewish young people who had been celebrating a feast and killed and injured several of them. This man is now in jail. Besides being a very warm, devoted and faithful friend of Jim Reed, Mr. Pendergast is the man who dictated the appointment of James Cowgill as chairman of the Democratic state committee. He is in the wholesale whisky business, and it may well be believed that it will not be any disadvantage to his business to be the owner of the police board in Kansas City, since the saloons that buy of him are always nervous when they cannot be sure that the police system is alright.

Mr. O'Malley, who was at the conference, and who is the closest friend of both Pendergast and Reed, is in the wholesale cigar business and is looking forward to a boom in him trade as soon as his friend Pendergast gets charge of the police board. Harry B. Hawes will be remembered by the older citizens as the former chief gangster. Just recently he was nominated for the legislature to take the place of a stool pigeon who has resigned at the proper juncture. The understanding is that if Gardner is elected, Hawes is

to be the real Governor and Gardner is to merely look after the social functions and do the posing. To assist Hawes in the responsibilities that will attend the return of the old gang, Sam B. Cook, former Secretary of State, and of malodorous political character, will be on hand. Senator will be able to play the part he always played, by taking his share with everybody that is in power.

Everybody gets something out of this except the people. They get just what they got before when the "gang" controlled the politics of the state and what they always get when men like Reed, Pendergast, Hawes and Cook are allowed to run things.

This photograph of the political partnership that will control Missouri in case of the election of Gardner ought to be sufficient for any honest voter, with a sense of personal and political decency, who has regard for the honor of the state and the interests of the taxpayer.

Do the people of Missouri want to re-instate the Hawes, Cook and McAllister gang? Do they want to put Thos. J. Pendergast, the Kansas City dive-keeper, in charge of the system of Kansas City? Do they want to elect a United States Senator who is the intimate, personal and political friend of this dive-keeper? That's the proposition that's put to them.

PROTECTION FOR THE FARMER.

Who will the farmers support for U. S. Senator? Walter S. Dickey, who stands for Protection to the product

of the mine, the farm and factory or will he vote for James Reed, who has voted for Free Trade and removing the tariff on the products of the mine, the farm and factory?

Before the farmer determines this question, let him compare the imports of farm products under Protection and under Free Trade. He will find that up to the time the war commenced, the imports of all farm products tremendously increased, and he knows that at that time, the price of farm products was rapidly decreasing. Let the farmer think of conditions before the European war commenced and when Democratic legislation was operating under normal conditions. Then go vote.

NOT READY FOR UNDERTAKER.

We hereby offer a prize of one copy of that celebrated book, "The First Battle," to anyone who will read the Democratic hand book issued by the Democratic State Committee and find from its pages what business its candidate for Governor is engaged in. For the benefit of the public, we inform them that Mr. Gardner, Democratic nominee for Governor, is a Coffin Maker and deals in those supplies which meet the last requirements needed on earth.

Mr. Gardner is basing his claims as a candidate on his great business experience. Gardner's business experience has dealt solely in supplying the needs of the dead. What is wanted in Missouri is one who can meet the needs of the living.

"DEMOCRATIC PROSPERITY."

During the last three years of the Taft administration there was an average of 13,848 commercial failures a year. During the first three years of the Wilson administration there was an average of 18,325 commercial failures a year, this being an increase of 36 per cent.

During the last three years of the Taft administration the liabilities of commercial failures averaged \$198,645,384 a year. During the first three years of the Wilson administration the liabilities of commercial failures averaged \$310,955,765 a year, this being an increase of 56 per cent.

How does this record compare with the claims of Democracy regarding the "prosperity" of the country?

DEMOCRATIC APPROVAL SOCIETY.

Here's One That Endorses the President Most Heartily.

There is a Democratic Approval Society. Its slogan is "We Approve." Among the list of their approbations are the following:

- We approve of the selection of Mr. William Jennings Bryan as Secretary of State; we heartily approve of his resignation; we also approve of the President's letter accepting Mr. Bryan's resignation, in which he warmly congratulates him on his patriotic and able discharge of the duties of the office without mentioning the fact that after the note of Feb. 1, signed by Mr. Bryan, was sent to the German government he, Mr. Bryan, sent for Mr. Dumba, the discredited representative of the Austrian government, and informed him that that note didn't mean anything; we approve of the President's capture of Vera Cruz for the purpose of obtaining a salute to the American flag; we warmly approve of his withdrawal from Vera Cruz with the flag unsaluted; we approve of his support of Pancho Villa; we approve of his pursuit of Pancho Villa; we approve of his avowed determination to Congress that under no circumstances must Huerta be permitted to be President of Mexico; we approve of his later announcement that under no circumstances must there be any interference with the affairs of Mexico; we approve of his speeches opposed to preparedness in 1914 and 1915; we heartily approve of his speeches in favor of preparedness in 1916; we approve of his notifications to Germany that submarine warfare against merchant ships must cease; we warmly approve of his announcement during the submarine controversy that we are too proud to fight; we approve of him when he goes forward and when he comes back; when he goes up and when he comes down, in curved lines, diagonally, elliptically and parabolically. Our approval is flexible, double-jointed, adjustable and mobile.

These are our sentiments, said the backwoods statesman, and if they don't suit, by Gawd, they kin be altered.

It is proposed to appropriate \$1,000,000 out of the state treasury to start this bank, but the finances of the state happen to be in the same condition that my finances are at the present time, and if the bill becomes a law the state will have to borrow the money to start with.

It is proposed to make the Governor, Attorney-General, Secretary of State, State Treasurer and State Auditor the board of governors of this bank. Who can imagine anything more absurd? The bank would soon be bankrupt, just like the state is now.

It is proposed to pay all expenses, salaries, etc., out of 1/4 of 1 per cent and create a reserve sufficient to ultimately pay back to the state the amount originally appropriated. Those who have had experience in the farm loan business know that this cannot be done on 1/4 of 1 per cent.

Many other reasons might be given, why the scheme would prove a failure, but that's enough.

Yours very truly,
S. A. CLARK.

NO NEED OF LAND BANK

**Public School Funds Can Be
Loaned to Farmers at
5 Per Cent.**

A HUGE LEGISLATIVE BLUNDER

**State's Finances in Such Condition
that Money Needs to Be Bor-
rowed to Start—Lack of
Experience in Managers.**

Carrollton, Mo., Sept. 7, 1916
Republican State Committee,
St. Louis, Mo.

Gentlemen—Replying to your favor of the 6th inst., in relation to the Gardner Land Bank Bill, will say that this is such a huge legislative blunder that it would be extremely difficult to find anything of merit in the entire bill.

If there ever was any occasion for such a system of rural credit, the new federal law is supposed to supply the demand. But I am of the opinion that there is no occasion for any such law either state or federal. To support this view I will refer briefly to local conditions as they exist.

The public school fund of this county now amounts to \$117,301.27, which is loaned to the farmers at 5 per cent without any commission, with the privilege of paying any or all of the principal at any time or keeping it as long as desired. To furnish an equal amount to each county in the state the Land Bank would have to control more than \$13,000,000. A number of life insurance companies are making farm loans here at 5 per cent and a small commission. The current rate of interest for local capitalists is 6 per cent. At these rates there is an abundance of capital to meet all demands, except those where from 75 to 100 per cent of the value of the land is wanted. The demand for these excessive loans is generally met by local capitalists.

Then in what respect would the proposed land bank fill a long felt want? The only possible excuse is that it would furnish money at a lower rate of interest. Is that true? Let us investigate a little further. It is proposed to make these farm loans a 4.3 per cent, with an additional 1/4 of 1 per cent for the reserve fund, or a total of 4.8 per cent. Let us compare this with the highest rate obtained here. As stated above, the local capitalist receives 6 per cent. It is proposed to exempt the land bank loans from all forms of taxation. At the present time the total tax levy here for all purposes is 3 1/3 per cent, and real estate notes are assessed at 50 per cent of their face value, which is equivalent to 1 2/3 per cent taxes. Hence it will be seen that the local capitalist is realizing 4 1/3 per cent on his money. If the object, then, is to furnish money to the farmer at a low rate of interest why not pass a law exempting all farm loans from taxation? This would doubtless bring about the desired result. But the farmer would at once see that this was a single tax scheme under a different name, because he would know that the taxes lost by such exemptions would be levied and collected on his land. No; you could not fool the farmer on that kind of a scheme. But in reality that is just what the Gardner land bank bill proposes, and the farmers will doubtless get their eyes open before the campaign is over.

It is proposed to appropriate \$1,000,000 out of the state treasury to start this bank, but the finances of the state happen to be in the same condition that my finances are at the present time, and if the bill becomes a law the state will have to borrow the money to start with.

It is proposed to make the Governor, Attorney-General, Secretary of State, State Treasurer and State Auditor the board of governors of this bank. Who can imagine anything more absurd? The bank would soon be bankrupt, just like the state is now.

It is proposed to pay all expenses, salaries, etc., out of 1/4 of 1 per cent and create a reserve sufficient to ultimately pay back to the state the amount originally appropriated. Those who have had experience in the farm loan business know that this cannot be done on 1/4 of 1 per cent.

Many other reasons might be given, why the scheme would prove a failure, but that's enough.

Yours very truly,
S. A. CLARK.

WILL YOU TRUST THEM?

The Gardner bill places the management of the land bank in the hands of the same state officials who have managed the penitentiary during the past three years, and who tried to take \$334,189.51 from the state school funds. Do the people of this state want to place the loaning of \$40,000,000 in such hands?

COMPARE THEIR VALUE.

There is not a live community in this or any other state that would not offer substantial inducements to have Walter S. Dickey and his business interests locate in that community.

How many cities in the state would offer any inducement to have Jim Reed with his hot air supply locate there?

Interrupted



—Post-Dispatch.